

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A frame structure for partition walls-(P) of building rooms, comprising a plurality of substantially vertical and substantially horizontal elongate support members-(2), which are mutually connected at their ends to define a substantially rigid framework, at least one of said elongate members-(2) comprising a base profile-(3) which has at least one central portion-(4) adapted to define a housing-(5) for the peripheral edges-(R) of a partition wall-(P) and two end portions-(6) adapted to engage with lateral profiles-(7) for accommodating the peripheral edges-(R) of the partition wall-(P), ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said central portion-(4) is substantially parallel to and offset from a geometric plane-(G) defined by said end portions-(6), so as to increase the height of said housing-(5), while maintaining the same transverse dimension of said elongate support members-(2).

2. (Currently Amended) A structure as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein, at each of said end portions-(6), said base profile-(3) comprises a first appendix-(8) and a second appendix-(9), which face toward each other to define a corresponding shaped seat-(10).

3. (Currently Amended) A structure as claimed in claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said first-(8) and second-(9) appendixes are disposed transverse to said geometric plane-(G).

4. (Currently Amended) A structure as claimed in claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each of said base profiles-(3) includes snap means-(11) at said shaped seats-(10) for engagement of said lateral accommodating profiles-(7).

5. (Currently Amended) A structure as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each of said base profiles-(3) has a plurality of holes-(12), for fastening thereof by screws-(13) on a partition wall-(P), or on a wall of the building, or on the ceiling-(S) or floor-(F) of the room.

6. (Currently Amended) A structure as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it further comprises one or more spacer profiles-(14), adapted to mutually connect at least two adjacent panels (A), being part of a partition wall-(P), each of said spacer profiles-(14) having two symmetric portions-(15) substantially equal to said base portions-(3).

7. (Currently Amended) A structure as claimed in claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said symmetric portions-(15) of each of said spacer profiles-(14) are disposed with their respective geometric planes (G) in substantially parallel positions.

8. (Currently Amended) A structure as claimed in claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each of said spacer profiles-(14) is positioned horizontally between two adjacent panels-(A), with the latter being in a vertically superimposed relationship, or between a partition wall-(P) and the floor-(F) and/or the ceiling-(S) of the room.

9. (Currently Amended) A structure as claimed in claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each of said spacer profiles-(14) is positioned vertically between two partition walls-(P), or between a partition wall-(P) and a wall of the building.

10. (Currently Amended) A structure claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said elongate support members-(2) include at least one upper horizontal profile-(16) and at least one lower horizontal profile-(17) for supporting a sliding door-(D), which is movable between a closing position and an opening position.

11. (Currently Amended) A structure as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that wherein said upper horizontal profile-(16) has a central portion-(4") and at least one end portion-(6"), which are substantially equal to the corresponding central portion-(4) and end portion-(6) of said base profile-(3).

12. (Currently Amended) A structure as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that wherein said upper horizontal profile-(16) further has a third appendage-(19), which protrudes along a direction substantially orthogonal to said central portion-(4").

13. (Currently Amended) A structure as claimed in claim 12, characterized in that wherein third protruding appendage-(19) has a rail -(20) for guiding one or more wheels or rollers-(21) whose axles are integral with the sliding door-(D).

14. (Currently Amended) A structure as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that wherein said upper horizontal profile-(16) further has a second central portion-(18), to enhance the rigidity of said upper horizontal profile-(16).

15. (Currently Amended) A structure as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that wherein said lower horizontal profile-(17) has a central portion-(4") and at least one end portion-(6""), which are substantially equal to the corresponding central portion-(4) and end portion-(6) of said base profile-(3).

16. (Currently Amended) A structure as claimed in claim 15, characterized in that wherein said lower horizontal profile-(17) further has a longitudinal cavity-(22), for accommodating a lower edge-(E) of the sliding door-(D).